	Week Ending (Date)	1994-95	1993-94
December 94	03.12.94	10.36	8.74
	10.12.94	11.29	8.97
	17.12.94	11.24	8.82
	24.12.94	11.15	8.57
	31.12.94	9.96	8.86
January 95	07 01 95	10 67	9 18
	14 01 95	10 62	9.47
	21.01.95	11.14	9.14
	28.01.95	11.55	8.96
February 95	04 02.95	11.37	9 52
	11.02.95	11.52	9.42
	18.02.95	11.49	9.25

Objecives of economic reforms

263. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the basic objectives of economic reforms initiated in June, 1991;

(b) how far these objectives have been realised; and

(c) what has been the impact of the reforms on the standard of living of lower and middle class people in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (c) The fundamental objective of economic reforms is to bring about rapid and sustained improvement in the quality of life. Central to this goal is the rapid growth in incomes and productive employment.

The new economic policies have helped in achieving higher economic growth. It increased from 0.9 per cent in 1991-92 to 4.3 per cent in 1993-94 and is expected to be at 5.3 per cent in 1994-95. Industrial production which almost stagnated in 1991-92 is expected to grow by 8 per cent during 1994-95. Foodgrain production is expected to attain a record high of 185 million tonnes in 1994-95. Rate of inflation (measured in terms of Wholesale Price Index for all commodities) has been brought down to 11.4 per cent as on February 4, 1995 from 13.6 per cent in 1991-92. Additional employment opportunities in the economy increased from 3 million in 1991-92 to 6 million in each of the years 1992-93 and 1993-94 with prospects for a larger rise in 1994-95.

The above developments are expected to have a favourable impact on the standard of living of lower and middle class in the country.

Banks to deal in securities on stock exchanges

264. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to allow banks to directly deal in securities on the Stock Exchange; and

(b) if so, the reasons for such permission in the light of securities scam?